Research Integrity

- Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Training
- Financial Conflict of Interest (FCOI) Training and Disclosure

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NSF, NIH and USDA Requirements for Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Education

On August 20, 2009, the National Science Foundation (NSF) published (74 FR 42126) a new requirement for RCR education. For proposals submitted on or after January 4, 2010 and subsequently awarded, institutions are responsible for verifying that undergraduate students, graduate students and postdoctoral researchers supported by NSF to conduct research have received RCR training. At this time Auburn is using the *Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative* (CITI) RCR online program to meet the NSF requirement. (NSF Resources on RCR: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-19930.htm, http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/rcr/rcrfaqs.jsp)

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) also require RCR education for certain types of awards. The NIH Policy on Responsible Conduct of Research Education took effect for all new and renewal applications submitted on or after January 25, 2010, and for all continuation (Type 5) applications with deadlines on or after January 1, 2011. The CITI RCR modules are also used to partially satisfy the NIH requirements. (http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-10-019.html)

USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture is now requiring training in the responsible conduct of research (RCR) for any faculty, staff, or students participating in NIFA research projects. The training requirement became effective in February 2013, must be documented and is subject to NIFA review. CITI is the training tool being used by Auburn.

(http://research.ufl.edu/compliance/pdf/nifa 213.pdf)

Financial Conflict of Interest (fCOI)

Training and Disclosures based on sponsor requirements.

The Public Health Service (PHS)2012:

- ➤ <u>Investigator</u>: Any person, regardless of title or position, who is responsible for the **design**, **conduct**, **or reporting** of **research** funded by the PHS, or proposed for such funding, **including** collaborators and consultants.
- > CITI Training
- COI Disclosures (COI SMART System)

Consequences of Non-Compliance

- Suspension of research project.
- Inability to use data or publish results.
- Inability to receive funding from federal grants.
- Termination of employment.
- Immediate shut-down of ALL research at the institution.
- The exposure of the researcher and the institution to liability.

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"The ultimate responsibility for the ethical conduct of science resides within the institution which conducts scientific research and with the individual scientist. Research institutions should ensure that rigorous scientific standards are upheld by each of their faculty, staff, and students and should extend these standards to all reports, publications, and databases produced by the institution."

American Medical Association (1997) Code of Medical Ethics



Picture Courtesy of: J. Smith amehda2@comcast.net



What Are We Doing? Program Review

Looking at Active PHS, NSF and NIFA Awards (Using Banner)

- •PHS Awards (FCOI)
 - To ensure training (CITI) and disclosure (COI SMART System)
- NSF and NIFA Awards (RCR)
 - To ensure appropriate RCR training (CITI)

Compliance Cheat sheet

- NSF RCR Training
 - Prior to Payment on Award
- USDA RCR training
 - Upon award
- > PHS Investigator FCOI Training and Disclosure
 - Prior to Proposal Submission (Training and Disclosure)
 - Confirm Disclosures at Award
 - Additional Training & Disclosure Requirements